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FLASH = BACK

PRESERVING THE PAST
FOR THE FUTURE

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Preserving the Past for the Future

FLASHBACK

Washington County Historical Society

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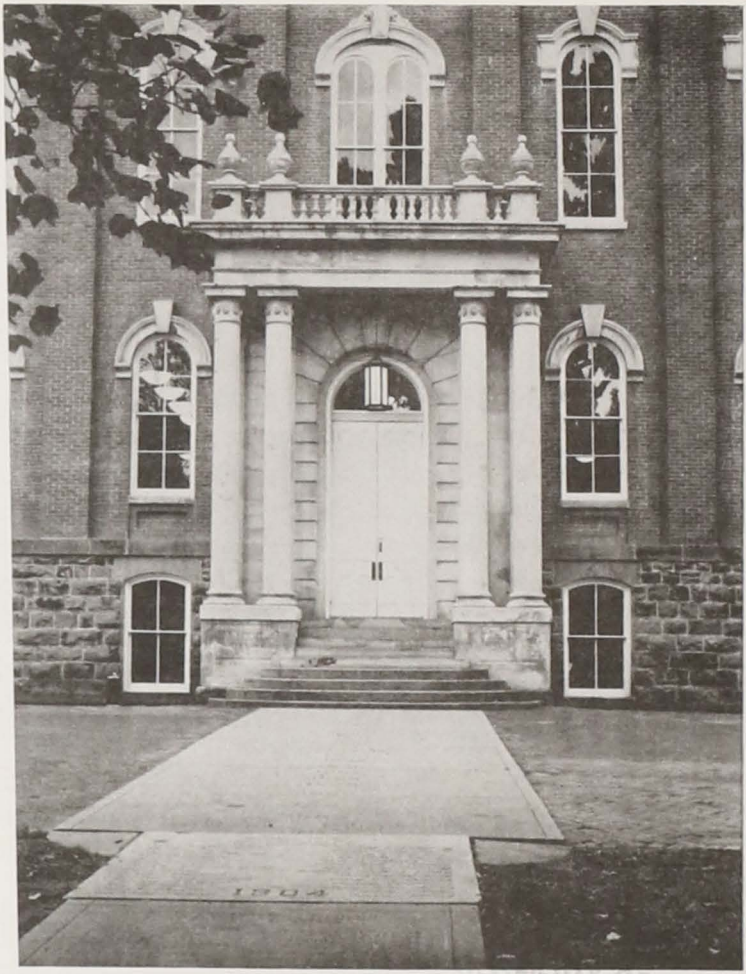

Entrance, showing earliest graduates' names enscribed in Senior Walk by year of graduation

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FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

OLD MAIN
On Fayetteville Campus, U. of A.

by Cathy Carter, Office of University Relations

The renovation of Old Main is characterized by a mixture of the old and the new. Although the appearance of the renovated landmark is that of its past, its details are the latest in materials and technology.

One of the first things people notice when they enter Old Main is the beautiful bordered carpet in the corridors. The antique design is deceptive; the carpet is a reproduction woven of fibers made to withstand tremendous amounts of traffic.

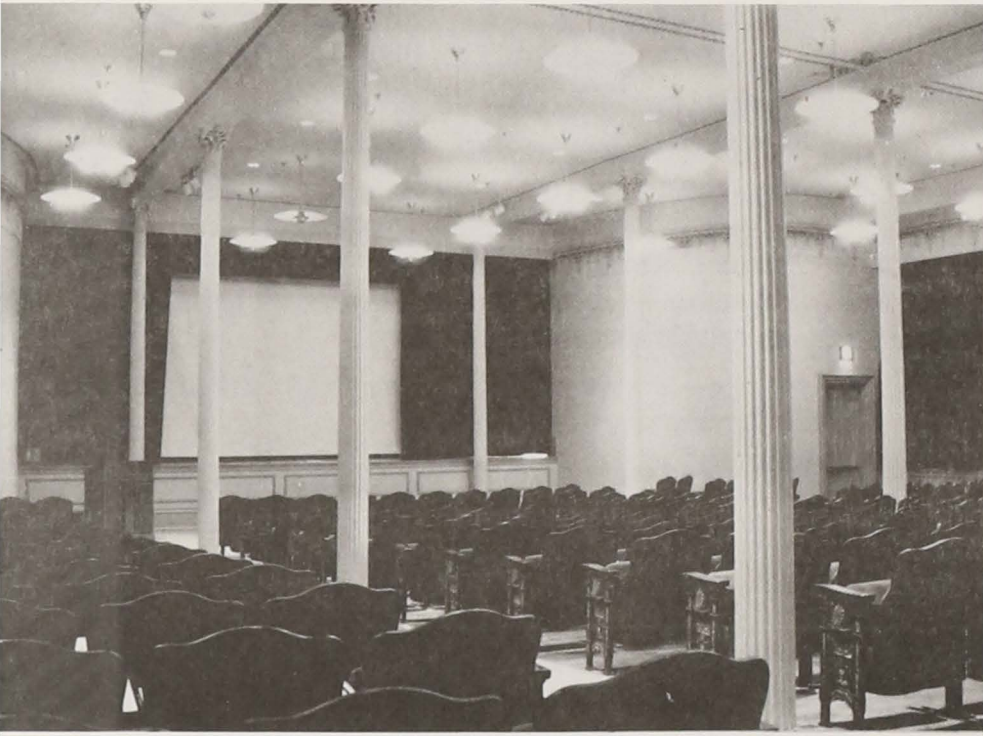
Giffels Auditorium, restored to its original appearance, is lighted by fixtures exactly like those of the 1920's, when Irma Fitch Giffels, the Madison County native and University graduate who paid the cost of restoring the auditorium, went to school there. The lighting designer for the restoration recognized the light fixtures in an old photograph and realized they were the same ones used in Ellis Island in the same era, since he was also serving as lighting designer for the Ellis Island restoration. Because the old design was being reproduced for the Island, they were affordable, as well as authentic, for use in Old Main.

Giffels Auditorium also contains some of the most advanced technology in the building, making it one of the best audiovisual facilities on campus. The entire building is wired with fiber- optic cable to link Old Main with the campus' mainframe computer. Old Main's new climate control and security systems are also the best on campus.

And finally, the bells.

With a long silence, bells – or at least their modern-day equivalent – are once again ringing in the north tower of Old Main. A computerized carillon, a bell device, was installed in Old Main last year. The carillon strikes every hour from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with the Westminster Chime, a tune like that played by most grandfather clocks.

After the 12 chimes at noon, the new carillon plays a short musical selection from its 240-song repertoire. After the daily 5 p.m. chimes, the carillon version of the UA alma mater drifts across campus. Different tunes can be programmed into the carillon and may be changed to reflect the season or a holiday. The computerized carillon, provided by Schulmerich Carillons of Sellersville, Pa., as



Giffels Auditorium

part of the original renovation bid, can produce the sound of 318 bells in six voices across the six octaves.

The new "bells" aren't the first. In 1949 bells were installed in the north tower as a memorial to all U of A men and women who had served in wars. The new bells have not replaced the original bell installed in the north tower in the late 1870's. That bell remains in the tower and is rung only on special occasions. The last time this bell rang was to mark the beginning of the Old Main renovation in July, 1989.

Old Main Construction Facts

Because the nearest railroad was 75 miles from the new university campus – formerly McIlroy's farm, located on a hill northwest of downtown Fayetteville – most building materials for Old Main had to be obtained:

- Millions of bricks were made from clay dug within a mile of the site and fired in kilns on the property
- (2,600,000 bricks were used in Old Main; others were used to build private structures nearby);
- Sandstone from the McIlroy farm was used to construct the Old Main basement; limestone for the facade was quarried nearby;
- Lumber— 719,805 feet of it— was cut at a mill nearby on the White River;
- Iron— 260,000 pounds, and nails (260 kegs) had to be brought in by ox-cart.

In 1873, the Board of Trustees of the university (known as the Arkansas Industrial University until its name was changed to University of Arkansas in 1899) decided to construct a central building like the one at the University of Illinois. They met with architect John Mills Van Osdel and learned that the drawings for the earlier building had been destroyed in Chicago's disastrous fire in 1871. Van Osdel agreed to redraw the plans at a cost of $1000.

A contract of $123,885 for the construction of Old Main was awarded to Mayes & Oliver of Fayetteville.

Change orders added about $20,000 to the original contract. In 1873, construction began; the building was completed and accepted in 1875, but only the first two floors were ready for use. The interior work on the upper floors was finished four years later.

Bust of Senator Fulbright in place of honor for Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences

IS THE UNIVERSITY WAYOFF IN FAYETTEVILLE?

The cornerstone on Old Main gives the answer.

by Ethel Simpson, Mullins Library, and Harriet Jansma, Office of University Relations

Fayetteville and Washington County bought it fair and square.

The Arkansas constitution of 1868 obligated the General Assembly to establish and maintain a State University. Act XLIV, signed by Governor O. A. Hadley on March 27, 1871, marks the legal beginning of the Arkansas Industrial University, which was renamed University of Arkansas in 1899. This act provided that "any county, city or incorporated town" could bid for the university, the money to be raised by bond issue or taxation. Fayetteville and Washington County voted a combined bond issue of $130,000, and Fayetteville was made the site of the University. The land for the campus was purchased for $12,000 from William McIlroy, a Fayetteville banker and merchant.

Construction of Old Main began in 1873, the year after classes began at the University. Before Old Main was built, classes were held in the McIlroy farmhouse and two frame buildings on the site. But this huge masonry building, the largest in Arkansas at the time of its construction, came to represent the establishment of the University for the people of the state and region.

For over a century, Old Main has been the symbol of education for the people of Arkansas. Its site, atop a hill that can be seen from nearly any point in the area, emphasizes the dominant role of the University in the community and the state. Its remoteness from the state's political and economic centers has at times been a

disadvantage, but it also represents the nineteenth-century idea that learning was a serious activity, requiring an environment removed from the hurly-burly of daily life.

Now Old Main is home to several departments of the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, including three which are a part of its Humanities Program, as well as its Center for Arkansas and Regional Studies. A challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, matched generously by private contributions, resulted in over $4 million toward the restoration of the historic building, whose doors opened to students again this fall. Individual gifts provided $6 million, and public funds appropriated by the Arkansas General Assembly completed the funding for the decade-long project.

A rededication celebration on Sept. 20-21 included concerts on the lawn, a processional of academic leaders and class representatives along Senior Walk into old Main, an academic convocation in Giffels Auditorium, an alumni luncheon, a rededication ceremony on the front lawn and a special Old Main halftime celebration at the football game ending the festivities. If you missed this special weekend, make plans to visit Old Main when you are in Fayetteville again. You'll be glad you did.

Old bell in North Tower
View of new carpet and hallway

D.Y. THOMAS

by Bob Besom

David Yancey Thomas taught classes in Old Main from 1907 to 1940. During most of those years he was the chairman of the University of Arkansas' History and Political Science Department.

The Old Main D.Y. Thomas knew was the center of campus life. It housed the library, book store, class rooms, auditorium, and offices of all sorts. In a recent interview, Dr. Dorsey Jones described arrangements in 1926 when he arrived at the university. There were only four faculty members in the History and Political Science Department then, and they all shared one office. Three, including Dr. Thomas, even sat at the same table. The office held another table, several wooden chairs, a small bookcase, and Dr. Thomas' couch. (D. Y. Thomas suffered from serious illnesses, especially in the 1920's and he often had to lie down on his couch.) There was no typewriter or telephone, and few supplies. Dr. Jones' teaching aids were limited to a chalk board and a faded map of Europe. Any real office work was taken to the library in the basement of Old Main, or home.

For Dr. Thomas, home was a large two story frame house on nearby Fairview Avenue that he had constructed in 1908 for $2,462. The house had a second floor library where Thomas did most of his work. The house was razed c. 1980.

D. Y. Thomas was born in 1872, the youngest of nine children. He grew up on a farm in southwest Kentucky not far from the Arkansas border. In the 1890's he earned degrees from Emory and Vanderbilt, and in 1902 a Ph.D. in history from Columbia. He taught at Hendrix College off and on from 1898 to 1905. While in Conway he met Sarah Janney, whom he married in 1905. The couple had

two children, Mary Elizabeth born in 1907 and Albert born in 1909. D. Y. Thomas died in 1943.

D. Y. Thomas deserves to be remembered today for his efforts to preserve the heritage of Arkansas. He published essays and books on the state's history and was a forceful advocate for the preservation of Arkansas archival materials. He started the Arkansas Historical Association and was the first editor of its Quarterly.

D. Y. Thomas had a long list of publications to his credit, including 43 articles and eight books. Four of the books were on Arkansas subjects. He spent 10 years on what might have become his major work, a college-level history of the United States. The manuscript was accepted by Prentice-Hall editors, but after the United States entered World War II, the publisher (concerned about shrinking college enrollment) dropped the project.

Whenever Dr. Thomas turned to an Arkansas topic he had to dig for materials to support his research. He wrote scores of letters asking for information from Arkansas governors, congressmen, and other prominent people or their families, and pleaded with them to deposit their papers in the university library. In the 1930's former governor George Donaughey became interested in the problem and set up a special fund so that Thomas could buy old Arkansas newspapers and documents from private collectors for the university library.

D. Y. Thomas was a fearless critic, speaking out frequently and forcefully on the issues of the day. He once said in a speech that an educator had an obligation to society to point out problems in the world and to work to help solve them.

– In the 1910's he represented Arkansas on the University Committee on Southern Race Questions, a regional coalition organized to call attention to racial problems in the

South. On behalf of the committee he spoke against lynchings in Arkansas and investigated the 1919 Elaine Riots.

- During World War I he prepared special classes on war aims and European history for soldiers taking officer's training at the university. ---In 1920 he published a lesson plan for a course designed to teach civics to women about to vote for the first time.
- He supported the peace movement between the world wars. He was active in one national group working to outlaw compulsory military training in colleges and another lobbying in favor of United States adherence to the World Court.
- He argued for public ownership of utilities, and scolded the Daughters of the American Revolution and American Legion over issues relating to academic freedom.

D. Y. Thomas' positions pleased some people and displeased many others. In 1939 one of his statements on contemporary Arkansas politics appears to have irritated Governor Carl Bailey and landed Thomas in serious trouble. To make a long story short, the university Board of Trustees, apparently responding to pressure from the governor, forced Dr. Thomas to retire in 1940. Dr. Thomas was 67 years old at the time, but he was not yet financially prepared for retirement. He had to find work elsewhere and ended up moving to Austin to take a job teaching international relations at the University of Texas. He taught there until his death in 1943.

In 1940 an unemployed Dr. Thomas found that he had time to turn to a project he had been considering for years: the establishment of a state-wide organization to support the publication of an Arkansas history journal. After months of preparation by Thomas and others, the Arkansas Historical Association was organized in February 1941. Dr. Thomas, even though he had already

moved to Austin, agreed to be editor of the quarterly journal.

Finding material and money to publish the first issues of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* was a great challenge. Dr. Thomas had to beg people for articles, and do a lot of writing and rewriting himself. He also had to worry constantly about funding. Revenue from memberships was the sole source of money for the project, and there was always a question as to whether the Association could afford the next issue. One way or another, D. Y. Thomas managed to get out the first four issues in 1942 and had started on Volume 2 of the *Quarterly* before he died.

Early this year when the Arkansas Historical Association celebrated 50 years of continuous publication of the *Quarterly* it recognized David Yancey Thomas as a pioneer in the preservation of Arkansas' history. It is appropriate now, as we celebrate the heritage and rebirth of Old Main, that we also recognize the service of this man who taught in the historic building for 33 years.

(This article was written for a brochure for the rededication of Old Main.)

Photos of D.Y. Thomas and wife

HOWRY FAMILY OF NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

The first mention of the Howry (Howery) family is found in two different sources. The first is *Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas*, settlement of Madison County: "...in 1828, George Howery removed from Cane Hill to the Buchanan Farm. He had come from Warren County, Tennessee, to Cane Hill in 1827. His wife and her son, John Calico, Ex-County Treasurer, and still living at an advanced age, joined him in 1828". The second from Bob E. Sutton's *EARLY DAYS IN THE OZARKS,* published in 1950: "...In the fall of 1828 George Tucker drove the first wagon to enter Madison County, from Cane Hill, where he previously lived, and settled in Sheridan Bottom on Richland Creek near the border of Washington County. During the same year a man named John Holmesley, his son, Stephen, and son-in-law, Michael Masters, all of Castor Creek, followed Tucker and settled on Richland. Also in 1828 George Howery and family of Warren County, Tennessee, moved into the Richland area." Some elaboration should be made at this point. Elizabeth Calico was the daughter of William and Fereby Vaughn and second wife of George Howery. Her first marriage was to James Calico. George Tucker married Violet Calico, daughter of Elizabeth (Vaughn) Calico.

William Vaughn had visited the area of Eureka Springs and Northwest Arkansas early in the 1800's ("Stories About the Origin of Eureka Springs", printed in Volume 5, *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, page 297). William and wife, Fereby Vaughn, were not allowed to stay, but perhaps the stories he carried back to Tennessee enticed George Howery and others to leave their homes in Tennessee for the frontier of Arkansas.

George Hourie is found on the first Sheriff's Census for

Arkansas Territory in 1829 in Prairie Township. Elizabeth Howry is found on the same census in Cane Hill Township. He is also found on the 1830 census of Washington County, and on the Washington County tax lists for the years 1836-1838, and on the Madison County tax lists for the years 1839 and 1840. He was selected to serve on the First Grand Jury of Washington County in the year 1829 by Lewis Evans, first Sheriff of Washington County. It is believed that George Howry is living with his son, James Howry, in Madison County in 1840 as there is a member of the household of the right age to be George. Government Land Office Survey Records for Washington County reveal that he is living in Section 26, Township 17, Range 28 West. This land is now located in Madison County, Arkansas, near Hindsville. The original survey map shows him living very near the road from Osage Prairie to Izard County. His closest neighbors are James and Baptist Clark and Daniel Vaughn. The last record found for George Howry is that of his marriage to Ruth Williams in 1850. Ruth Williams is found on the 1850 Census of Benton County, age 55, with children Samuel and Nancy. She is living close to others allied with the Howry family. It is, therefore, believed that George Howry died shortly after the marriage in 1850. Perhaps the marriage was of such short duration that she took back her previous surname.

There is no conclusive evidence at this point that George Howry is the father of the other Howrys found in Washington, Madison and Benton Counties. However, I believe that the following will tend to lend strong circumstantial support that he was the father of William Howry, James Howry, Daniel H. Howry and George Howry, Jr.

WILLIAM HOWRY

William Howry was born in 1811 in Tennessee. He appears on the 1838 and 1840 Washington County tax lists.

By 1842 he is living in Benton County, Arkansas (by tax list the same year). The 1850 Benton County census lists William Howry with Daniel Howry in White River Township. William is 39 years of age and has no occupation. William, like George Howry, is found in the early Circuit Court Records of Washington County. Of particular interest is the fact that he is also found in the County Court Records of Washington County in 1835 where he owes $6.75 to the estate of James Clark.

(Note: The above mentioned reference to George Howry where his nearest neighbor is James Clark according to the original Government Land Office Survey.)

In 1849 and continuing into 1850, William Howry and Daniel Howry are involved in a lawsuit with Dennis Callahan: however, the particulars of this lawsuit remain a mystery. There were several continuances. In the 1850's Warren Wight was appointed by the Circuit Court of Benton County to act as administrator on behalf of William Howry in the lawsuit, William Howry then being deceased. Warren Wight won the case, and was awarded $50.00 William Howry is last found on the 1854 Madison County tax list. It is believed that he may have died there.

JAMES HOWRY

James Howry was born in either 1815 or 1822 in Virginia or Tennessee (Census records differ in 1850 and 1860). He is found on the 1837 and 1838 Washington County tax lists. In 1839 he is in Madison County, Arkansas (by tax list the same year). He is also on the Madison County census in 1840 living in Prairie Township. This Census lists one male under 5, one male 20-30, 1 male 50-60 and one female 20-30. By 1844 he is living in Benton County, Arkansas. I shall list the 1850 Benton County Census in its entirety for James, Daniel and George Howry, Jr. It will enable me to give the names of their children and known marriages.

Owry (Howery), James – age 28, b. Virginia
Lucinda – age 28, b. not known
Daniel – age 12, b. AR (believed died young)
Margaret – age 10, b. AR (m. Mr. Brown)
Martha – age 7, b. AR (m. George Graham)
George Ann – age 5, b. AR (m. Joshua Smith)

Other known children of James and Lucinda Howry from later census records:

Amanda, b. 1853 (m. R. A. Bryson)
James. b. 1858 (m. Mollie Barnes)

In the above 1850 Census of Benton County, James Howry is found in Osage Township. In 1860 he is also found in Benton county, Big Springs Township. His age is listed as 45 in 1860.

James received a land patent from the United States in 1854. Land Patent #6229. Land description NW Frl. SW Section 6, Township 18, Range 29 West. This land is currently near the town of Lowell. James is found on the tax lists for Benton County until the Civil War. During the Civil War no tax lists were taken. He does not appear on the tax lists in Northwest Arkansas after the Civil War. Therefore, it appears that James died during the Civil War. Perhaps he, like many others, died at the hands of bushwhackers or jayhawkers. His widow, Lucinda, is found on the 1870 Census of Benton county in White River Township with daughters, Margaret and Amanda, and son, James.

Note James Howry's widow and some of the children moved to Parker and Collin Counties in Texas during the 1870's.

DANIEL H. HOWRY

Daniel H. Howry was born 1817 in Tennessee. He is first found on the 1836 Washington County tax list. He is also found on the Washington County tax lists in the years 1837, 1838, 1840 and 1841. In 1838, 1839 and 1842 he is on

the Madison County tax lists. It is noteworthy to mention that even though George Howery, Sr., James Howery and David Howery are listed on the 1839 Madison County tax list, only Daniel is listed as a landowner. The land Daniel H. Howry owned in Madison county was obtained by land patent dated 10 June 1837. Same was filed for record on 10 March 1843. This property was sold by Daniel Howry and his wife Margaret to Ambrose Clark on the 13 August 1845. Daniel is listed as being of Benton County, Arkansas, on the deed. In 1842, Daniel Howery is listed as a non-resident taxpayer of Madison County and in 1843 he is shown on the tax lists of Benton County.

In the 1843 County Court Records of Benton County, Arkansas, with reference to roads is found an order by the Court for Daniel Howry to apportion hands for the purpose of maintaining the road from Bentonville to Campbell's Mill.

In August of 1841 is recorded the first land transaction for Daniel Howry in Benton County when he bought Lot 78 in the Town of Bentonville from Samuel Whitehead. Other land transactions include: Daniel Howry from George Howry, Jr., April 1853, 33 acres, (this property included land located in the town of Bentonville, also known as "Mudtown", originally known as Robinson's Crossroads); Daniel Howery from Phillips, March 1854, 37 acres Section 6, Twsp. 18, Range 29 West (near present Lowell, Arkansas); Daniel Howery from John Lindley 120 acres in Section 6, Twsp. 17, Range 29 (one section of this land is near the intersection of Highway 265 and 412 East, the other section is near where Highway 412 East crosses the White River Bridge, both sections located in Washington County). Daniel also received two land patents from the Unites States, both bear date of 1854: Patent #6253 for the SE SE Sectional, Twsp. 18, Range 30, the other Patent #6228, Section 12, Township 18, Range 30. Both are located near the present town of Lowell.

By 1854, Daniel and his wife Margaret began selling land in the Town of Bloomington. The first deed transfer is to George McGarrah for the NW 1/4, Section 7, Twsp 18, Range 29 West, on Main Street in the Town of Bloomington known as town lot #35. George McGarrah also bought town lots 12 and 14 from Daniel Howery. These deeds were witnessed by Jonathan Ping who became the first postmaster for the town of Bloomington. There are 11 references to Daniel and Margaret selling land in the Town of Bloomington.

The 1850 Census for Benton County, Arkansas, White River Township, is as follows:

Owry (Howry),	David	– age 33 b. Tennessee
	Margaret	– age 34 b. Missouri (maiden name Landers)
	Mary	– age 14 b. Arkansas (m. lst James Kendrick, m. 2nd Thomas Henry Benton Newell)
	Eliza J.	– age 13 b. Arkansas (m. James C. McGarrah)
	George W.	– age 11 b. Arkansas (m. Eliza Fannin)
	Elizabeth	– age 9 b. Arkansas
	Synthia A.	– age 6 b. Arkansas
	Nancy	– age 5 b. Arkansas
	Andrew J.	– age 3 b. Arkansas (m. Matilda Powell in Missouri)
	James M.	– age 1 b. Arkansas (wife Elizabeth)

Other known children of Daniel H. and Margaret Howry from later census records are:

Tempry or Henry b. 1850
Lucinda b. 1853 (m. John C. McCamey)
William Lafayette b. 1856

By 1858, Daniel H. Howery and wife, Margaret, are again living in Washington County, Arkansas, in Clear Creek Township on the land acquired from John Lindley. Sometime between 1860 and 1864 Margaret, wife of Daniel, died. Daniel then married Lucy Jane (Roberts) Atwood, formerly the wife of Evans Atwood who also lived

in the area of Clear Creek Township, Washington County, Arkansas. Evans Atwood had fought for the Confederate Army until his capture by Union Soldiers. While a prisoner of war, he kept a diary. A letter to his wife Lucy Jane is included in that diary. During Evans Atwood's absence, their youngest child, James Calvin Atwood, died. He is buried in Friendship Cemetery, Springdale, Arkansas. According to family lore, the letter written by Evans to his wife, Lucy Jane, was never received by her. Having not heard from her husband for a number of years, she believed him dead. She then married Daniel Howry. The children of Daniel and Lucy Jane Howry were:

Daniel Harrison b. 1865
Rosa Sedalia b. 1868
Charles Mac (possibly)

According to records kept by George W. M. Reed, D. H. Howery and son, G. W. Howery, fought for Company D. 1st Arkansas Cavalry, U.S.A. No actual proof has been found to date that this is in fact true. Letters have been written to the National Archives and the Arkansas History Commission, yet D.H. and G.W. Howery are not found on the rolls of this company. As the article in *FLASHBACK* references the date of mustering for this company as late in 1861, it is possible that George W. M. Reed was recalling a State Militia Unit when he wrote down this list of individuals as the First Arkansas Calvary was not mustered into service until 1862. Additional research is needed to verify. The pension applications of George W. Howry, James M. Howry and Andrew J. Howry are on file with the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

Note: Recent research has revealed that the company referred to by George W. M. Reed was actually an independent company attached to the 1st Arkansas Cavalry and the Post at Fayetteville. This information is contained in the testimony of Harriett Simpson in her claim before the

Southern Claims Commission after the Civil War. This explains the absence of the names of D. H. Howery and G. W. Howery from the official rolls of the 1st Arkansas Cavalry, Co. D in the Adjutant General's records and the records of the National Archives.

As was the case with most of the families who remained in Northwest Arkansas and Southwest Missouri during the Civil War, Daniel and his family were tragically affected both monetarily and personally. Prior to the war, Daniel had several hundred acres of land; land which was sold for an excess of $2,000.00. Yet, in 1868, he had only 40 acres of land in Washington County which was sold from Barry County, Missouri, for $100.00. Of greater importance is the fact that during the Civil War and the turmoil that followed, Daniel H. Howry lost his wife Margaret, his brothers James and George, and possibly more than one daughter. All died of unknown causes. Family members believe their deaths could have been war related.

After the war, Daniel and his second wife Lucy Jane moved first to Pettis County, Missouri, and then to Barry County, Missouri. Daniel died three years after the Civil War near Washburn, Barry County, Missouri, leaving a wife and several children.

Descendants of Daniel moved to Texas, Oklahoma, and Washington.

NANCY HOWRY

Nancy Howry was born in 1822 in Tennessee. The records of the Wight family indicate that she married Warren Wight on the 28th day of March 1838 in Fayette County, Texas. The 1850 Census of Benton County, Osage Township, is as follows:

Wight,	Warren	– age 35, born Kentucky
	Nancy	– age 28, born Tennessee
	James H.	– age 12, born Arkansas
	John F.	– age 10, born Arkansas
	Andrew B.	– age 8, born Arkansas

Warren Wight and his wife, Nancy, are also found on the 1860 Benton County Census. Sometime between 1860 and 1870 Nancy (Howry) Wight died. She does not appear on the 1870 Benton County census with Warren Wight.

GEORGE HOWRY, JR.

George Howry was born in 1825 in Tennessee. He is first found in the record of dead letters at the Post Office at Fayetteville in April of 1843 along with George Howery, Sr. He is listed as George Howery, Jr. He is then found on the tax lists of Benton county in 1843. He is found on the tax lists and census records until his death on the 24th of October 1867 in Benton County, Arkansas.

The 1850 Census of Benton County, Osage Township, is as follows:

Owry (Howry),	George	– age 25, born Tennessee
	Marinda	– age 19, born Arkansas (daughter of George & Lucinda Graham)
	John H.	– age 6 1/2 born Arkansas (married Sarah Sigmon)

Other children of George and Marinda Howry: George Elias, Seborn Graham, Margaret and Tabitha Bell.

George Howry, Jr. received several land patents from the United States Government: Patent #9569, SE1/4 SE1/4 Section 27, Township 19 North, Range 29 West (land near Monte Ne); Patent #5857, NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 36, Range 19 North, Range 30 West (this land lies east & slightly south of Monte Ne); Patent 6117, SE1/4 NW1/4 same section, township and range as Patent #5857, and Patent #5403 SE1/4 SE1/4 Section 35, Township 19 North, Range 30 West (this land is north of Springdale on Highway 71 North).

George Howry, Jr., died in 1867 as stated above. J. G. Owens was appointed administrator of the estate. The heirs of George were: John Henry, Elias, Seborn, Margaret Jane and Tabitha Bell. On the 20th day of

January 1869, Seborn Graham, cousin to the children was appointed guardian. (Source: Probate Records of Benton County, AR.)

Some descendants of George Howry, Jr., moved to Oklahoma, others remained in Arkansas.

REVEREND DANIEL HOWRY

One other Howry is found in Northwest Arkansas by 1845 according to the tax lists of Washington county. It is believed that he was a brother or cousin to the original settler, George Howry, who first settled at Cane Hill then removed to the Buchanan farm and later is found in the records of Madison County.

This Daniel Howry came to Northwest Arkansas from Hawkins County in East Tennessee. He was a Baptist Minister and lived on the Middle Fork of the White River near Carter's Store at Hicks. He died 6 September 1863 and is buried in the Roberson Cemetery near Sulphur City in Washington County along with his wife, Susannah (Wax) Howry.

Leonard Howry, P.O. Box 1112, Bryan, TX.77806 is a descendant of Daniel H. Howry (1817-1868). Researched in cooperation with Vicki Rounsavall, 1949 Juneway Terrace, Fayetteville, AR 72703.

FIELD
STUDIO
PORTRAIT AND LANDSCAPE
PHOTOGRAPHY

QUERIES

Are you a descendent of Solomon TUTTLE? Much information on this early settler in Washington County has been published, most notably in "*Solomon Tuttle of Old Mt. Comfort*", a WCHS book compiled in 1961 by Mrs. Julia Reed. Thirty years have passed since that publication, however, and many new descendants have joined us, and some have left us. In the interim, quantities of untapped research materials, and powerful new tools to collect and disseminate it, have become available. So perhaps it is time to consider an up-date of Solomon's descendants.

A project to compile as many as possible of the direct descendants of Solomon's parents, James and Rebecca (Washburn) Tuttle, already is underway. This is a not-for-profit endeavor, and would provide an opportunity for descendants to amend and expand the original family information in "Solomon Tuttle", particularly to include those who were omitted or only partially reported there. To this end, I will be pleased to exchange information with other of Solomon's descendants interested in seeing these lines amended and brought current. *Margaret I. Hawk, 3129 Ellenwood Dr., Fairfax, VA 22031, Tel: (703) 280-5395.*

Need help on James Lewis DUNCAN b. July 15, 1852 Adair Co., MO, w. Sarah Jone CANNADAY b. July 28, 1852 Montgomery Co., TN. Grave Bolen Cannaday b. 1823 AL. w. Sarrah A. HART B. 1830 in VA. Calvin Dudley HALL b. Jan. 19, 1844 in VA., lst wife Sarah SAGE, 2nd wife Nancy Jane WALLS b. July 31, 1856 in IN. Rebecca Adaline Williams "HERRINGTON," b. Feb. 6, 1852 Shanie Co., KS. *Virginia Threet, 1875 S. Custer Lane, Fayetteville, AR 72701.*

I would like to correspond with a person who submitted some data in the *Washington County History Book*. His name is Doss B. REED and he submitted information on John David Reed and his descendants. I am interested because of the FORD name. There is a William Ford who marries into the Reed family. *Glynda Ford Ellman, 1710 Oakwood, Troup, TX 75789.*

Desire information on Paskel ROBERTS b. about 1855. Married Mary Jane PRESLEY Sept. 16, 1886 in Crawford Co., AR. Also, information about Thomas Presley b. about 1834 in Tennessee. Moved to Missouri, then to Crawford Co., AR. Had several children, Louis, Joseph, Mary Jane, Melinda, Mellie, Lee, George (or Washington), William and Minda.

Also desire information on Joseph HARDING. He married Sara Elizabeth Jane MULLINS or McMULLINS. They had three children, Lucinda, b. April 1891; James Orville, (my father) b. January 21, 1894 in MO; and Dewey (girl) b. Aug. 1898. 1900 Soundex shows a Frederich Smith living next door. Later Sara Jane Harding m. a Fred SMITH who was known as "Peg Leg" SMITH. 1860 census of Green Co., MO shows a George Hardin (the Harding name was often misspelled as Hardin) George was 38 and born in VA. It shows a Joseph who was 5 years old and was born in MO. This could be my grandfather. It also shows I.C. Scott, 33, b. in OH living with the family. *Fannie Harding Griffith, P.O. Box 171 Point Comfort, TX 77978.*

In Ellen Earle Richardson's *Early Settlers of Cane Hill* (NO. 9 in the Bulletin Series published by the Washington County Historical Society in 1955), page 38, she says that Oscar Morrow, grandson of Elizabeth Buchanan and Rev. George Morrow, has the Bible showing the children of John Buchanan by his two wives. John Buchanan died in Pulaski Co., AR in 1820 and many of his descendants

moved to Washington Co., AR, including Elizabeth, wife of George Morrow.

I would be most grateful if anyone knows the whereabouts of this Bible and could make copies of the pages showing these Buchanan children and any other genealogical information recorded therein. I will be glad to pay for copies and postage. *Nancy Maxwell, 10299 Alder Court, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730.*

William O. Davis born 1874 died in 1966, age 92 in Washington Co., AR. He stated that he was the son of Thomas Jefferson Davis and Susan Jane MOSSBARGER and that his grandfather was Daniel Davis. I would like to correspond with a family searcher on this line. *Donna Ricchiuti, 14557 Valley Vista Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91403.*

DOWN MEMORY LANE

with Juel Benbrook Hamblen Giles
(Virginia Vance Gentry asked me to write something about her parents, Charley and Molly. - JBHG.)

Captain Charley Gaston Vance-

b. December 11, 1843 at Alta Pass, NC

d. February 27, 1933 at City Hospital in Fayetteville, aged 89 years. Buried in Evergreen Cemetery beside his first wife, Ellen Stoops Vance, 1852-1913.

Mary Salina Clark Vance- (Charley's second wife)

b. February 4, 1876 at Durham, AR.

d. January 6, 1932 at Fayetteville. Buried in McCord Cemetery near Elkins.

At the time of Mr. Vance's death, he was the last Confederate veteran to die in Fayetteville. Immediately after this, Hosey Maguire Benbrook, my grandfather, moved from Maguire Town-Harris area into town. Charley and Hosey were fast friends. When Charley died, he gave my Grandfather Hosey his walking cane which he had found on a battlefield. Some boy had sliced the bark from a hickory limb and wrote the name of the battle, the date, and how many soldiers were estimated to have been killed. Mr. Benbrook carried the cane to the last reunion of the Blue and the Grey at Gettysburg in 1938. Benbrook was only 16 when he first entered the service as a scout at the beginning of the war. The cane was burned in our house fire in 1955.

Mr. Vance served in Co. E, Sixth North Carolina Regiment, organized at Charlotte, and was a member of the Pat Cleburne (Washington County) Camp No. 216, United Confederate Veterans. The camp disbanded in 1925, and the flag which they had carried for more than fifty years, presented to them by the Southern Memorial

Association women, is now in the Old State House in Little Rock. Charley's cousin, General M. D. Vance, was commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans for many years.

Mr. Vance's first wife, Ellen Stoops Vance, died June 10, 1913 after years of a loving relationship, leaving an adopted daughter, Miss Buena V. Vance. Ellen believed that every childless couple should adopt children. When Mr. Vance died in 1933, Buena was at his bedside. Mrs. Buena Vance McCune was married then and living in Oklahoma.

At. Mr. Vance's death, he also left two other daughters in their teens by his second wife, Mary (Molly) Salina Clark Vance. She preceded him in death by about a year. The two vivacious, talented, pretty little girls were:

Beverly Vance, born July 16, 1915 in Fayetteville and died September 17, 1965. She is buried in McCord Cemetery by the side of her mother. She married first Roy Hodges, issue one son (Tommy Hodges who is still living in California). They divorced, and she married second Wayne Sharfesberg.

Virginia Vance, born December 1, 1917, died February 11, 1991 in Tulsa, OK. Virginia married L. C. Gentry, adopted a son, Charles in September 1939, and then had a daughter, Karen, born May 22, 1949. Karen never married and lives with her mother. Charles also did not marry. Virginia and Gentry divorced.

Mr. Vance remarried Mary (Molly) Salina Clark of Durham, AR on February 9, 1914. Molly was a member of the Southern Memorial Association of Washington County and the president of that association wrote the following at Molly's death:

Captain Charles Vance and Daughters:

I have just heard of the death of Mrs. Vance and wish to extend the sincere sympathy of the S. M. A. to you in your

sorrow. We know it is a blessed release for her and should rejoice that she is happy in another world, but poor human nature can but grieve over the loss of our loved ones and words of comfort seem meaningless at a time like this--and yet the sympathy of friends does help in a measure.

May the God of all comfort be with you in your sorrow.

President, S. M. A.
Sue H. Walker

When my family moved from the country into Fayetteville in 1917, Molly at once insisted that Mother, Elizabeth Shumate Benbrook, accompany her to the S. M. A. and join the organization, which she did. Later Molly and Lizzie insisted on my joining--so they would have a ride to meetings? Mr. Vance had quit driving and neither Mother nor Molly could drive. They were both members as long as they lived. I am historian of the organization.

Rev. Wm. Sherman and a Rev. Reed gave the eulogy for Molly. I have always known Rev. Sherman, a pastor at the Central Methodist Church in Fayetteville. When he retired he lived in a red brick house not far from our house on Oklahoma Way, on Mt. Sequoyah, just under the cross.

Molly was also an Eastern Star, I think, but don't know anything of her life in that organization. I was so busy helping my husband, Albert Adrian Hamblen Sr., on the farm and raising three sons, Mac, Jack and Adrian, that I never got around to joining that organization, though Mother and I were invited to join. Granddad Hosey Maguire Benbrook was a Mason, as was my brother, Major Clyde R. Benbrook, and my son, Mac L. Hamblen.

Mr. Vance was better known locally, in his later years, as "Uncle Charley" Vance. After the military service, Mr. Vance's life work was as a railroad engineer, more than forty years for the Frisco railroad. He was at the throttle when the first train rolled into Fayetteville, July 4, 1882.

He liked to brag about how he and his wife and little girls had "white passes", the highest honor an employee could have, enabling his family to travel free anywhere on the Frisco.

My father, Herbert Hosey Benbrook, told me about the first train into Fayetteville. He was just a small boy when he and his brother, Peter Clyde Benbrook, and a bunch of other boys around Maguire Town were too excited to wait for their families. So they decided to walk, leaving home before the break of day. The crowd was terrific; the boys had never seen anything like it before. I have read accounts of the crowd size estimated at 10,000 people. Father said the boys all had a few nickles in their pockets to buy lemonade, which was sold from little stands scattered everywhere--"all you can drink for 5 cents: to quench the people's thirst. After waiting -- it seemed to the boys forever--the cry went up, "She's coming, she's coming! People nearly trampled each other getting as close as they could to the railroad track. But when the train rounded the curve and came into sight, with Charley Vance at the throttle playing its most piercing whistle, the iron monster scared the children to death. They screamed, cried, and ran in all directions. As night fell, some parents were still searching for their children.

I'm reminded of another story about Charley's and Molly's courtship. Charley was the sole custodian of the little Frisco locomotive, on the "St. Paul Branch", which ran daily to St. Paul and back to Fayetteville. He could travel fast or slow, even stop the train if he so desired.

One time he began to notice a young woman in a gingham dress and a checkered bonnet picking blackberries in a pasture near the tracks. She always waved to him (everyone waved to the engineer in those days). He waved back. One day he slowed the train to a stop, ambled over to talk with Molly "a minute" and helped her fill her gallon berry bucket. That little episode

brought on their marriage February 9, 1914, followed by the births of two little girls. They lived on the corner of Meadow and Church. The little girls kept those two blocks between their house and the town square in a lively mood. They were talented and in demand for recitations at school, church, and S. M. A. meetings. Once the older, Beverly, recited "A Tribute to Robert E. Lee" at a Confederate decoration for the S. M. A.

At one time Charley bought the girls silk dresses for an Easter program. Then he told them that was all he could afford to spend. They would just have to wear their old shoes. They cried, pleaded, and stamped their feet to no avail. Finally Molly called my mother and asked her if she could have my father bring her down (we lived on Mt. Sequoyah) to see if she could persuade Charley to buy new slippers for the girls. Mother and Molly had grown up at Durham on almost adjoining farms and were very fond of each other. Mother asked the girls to show her their pretty silk dresses. Then she bragged how pretty they were, adding, "That calls for new patent leather slippers"--one just couldn't wear silk with scuffed-up shoes! The girls won their slippers!

I belonged to the Farm Women's Market in Fayetteville and sold Molly and Charles butter, eggs and vegetables. When Molly was so sick with cancer of the liver, Mr. Vance had her baptized in their bathtub. He and Molly were lovers to the end. He was devastated when he and the girls were left alone, and he didn't live long after.

Another little incident about Uncle Charley and my grandmother, Catherine Irvin Benbrook: when grandmother got old, she lost her hearing. One day she was moseying along down the center of the railroad tracks with a can of worms and a fishing pole, to go fishing at a favorite little hole on White River, above Harris. Suddenly she was startled when she felt a hand on her shoulder. Mr. Vance showed her that the train was just

behind her! He guided her off the track, climbed back into his cab, waved to her and proceeded on his way.

I will make a few remarks about Mr. Vance's younger daughter Virginia for whom I wrote this article. Until Virginia's very recent death, she was one of two living S.M.A. Daughters of a Confederate Veteran, the other one being Mrs. Lottie Moore Crouch who is 98 and lives alone on a farm off Highway 112 to which she and her husband, Bennett Crouch, moved when they first married and where they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary before his death. She has a good mind and is interesting to talk with. As members of the S.M.A., both Virginia and Lottie attended the S.M.A. decoration three years ago.

Just a note about the writer of this little epistle: I was 92 on March 1, 1991, the day I wrote this article for Virginia. I live alone on Memory Acres Farm where I came when I married Albert A. Hamblen in 1919. I am looked after by my married sons, Mac, Jack and Adrian,and their wives Dottie, Letamae and Shirley and a neighbor girl, Jan Hayes (who re-copied this article for me.) I like things of a historic nature, such as the Walnut Grove Cherry Belle Club (of which I am the only living charter member) which sponsors all kinds of history articles, genealogy and poetry. Ruth Morris is the current President and Genevieve Carnes and myself all wrote articles for the *HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY* book. I am an associate member of the little Walnut Grove Church which I joined in 1919. It began as a Methodist church under circuit rider-preacher, Rev. Jacob Sexton, in 1828, but is now a Presbyterian Church U.S.A. I am a member of the Shiloh Museum, and the Southern Memorial Association of Women who founded and care for the Confederate Cemetery in Fayetteville. I belong to the Washington County Historical Society and am the only one living of the six people who organized the Society in January 1951 at the journalism classroom of Professor

Walter Lemke at the University of Arkansas.

One of my special pleasures is talking by phone every week to my sister Mildred, one and one-half years younger that I, in Fort Worth. Our brother, Major Clyde R. Benbrook, was killed in France in World War II.

I write a poem now and then for my church, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fayetteville. I joined it when I married my second husband, Frank D. Giles, in 1960. We also joined the American Civil Liberties Union.

All of my sons help the S.M.A. in keeping up the Confederate Cemetery. As Mr. Vance was a United Confederate Veteran, now one of my sons, Albert Adrian Hamblen Jr., is a Son of Confederate Veterans, and his wife, Shirley, is the current president of the Southern Memorial Association. The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) were organized in 1898 when fervor was running high with the unveiling of the monument in the Confederate Cemetery which cost the S.M.A. the sum of $2,500.

As I am finishing writing this,the last of the two little vivacious Vance girls, Virginia, who suffered from cancer for some time , has just died. I dedicate this informal odyssey to the memory of *"Virginia"* my life long friend.

Opportunity Often Knocks, but it has Never been Known to turn the Knob & Walk in.

Editor's Note: Picture of James A.L. McColloch & wife Mary Louana Dyer McColloch was furnished by Lacy McColloch (great grandson of Mary Louana Dyer) of Maryland.

Rebecca Howard Dyer and Her Nine Children

by Forrest D. Poorman

The Dyer Family reached Northwest Arkansas in the early 1830's. Prairie Grove, Fayetteville and Cane Hill of Washington County were thriving villages. They had been

founded by pioneers who came to the area with families, household goods, preachers and slaves. These people were extremely religious and very concerned with education for their children. Schools were held in homes until buildings could be erected. The 1830 census for Washington County indicated there were 446 white males, 276 white females, 84 slaves and one free colored.

Who were the Dyers? What was their background? They were descendants of Alfred the Great, living in England before the Norman Conquest in 1066. Family historians have used at least five definitions for the word "dyer". The more religious said it meant "Diety", others felt it meant "strong and courageous:, or "dear or beloved", also "fleety swift animal" and lastly, "one who dyed cloth".

Clem McColloch in 1905 prepared a booklet titled *THE GENEALOGY OF THE SATER, DYER AND MCCOLLOCH FAMILIES.* In 1980, Watson Dyer published a comprehensive history: *DYER FAMILY HISTORY FROM ENGLAND TO AMERICA 1600 to 1980.* The two authors disagree on many facts and the tendency is to accept the Dyer version for it is supported by official papers not available to McColloch in 1905. references to the Dyer Family can be found in *Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas,* in Jines, Seay and Seay, *SEAY AND ALLIED LINES OF WESTERN WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS* and in Richardson, *EARLY SETTLERS OF CANE HILL.*

The Arkansas Dyers' grandparents, Elisha Dyer and Amy Laws were married around 1759. It is noted that he was not named in the will of his father, John Dyer, because the young man had mismanaged his own land and money and his father felt he did not deserve a bequest. There are many documents involving land transactions that indicate Elisha moved about for no apparent reason. Records indicate he moved from Halifax, Va. to Wilkes County, N. C., to Washington (Tenn.), back to Wilkes and then to

Pendleton, S. C. In 1810, he moved to Warren County, Kentucky, where he died in 1816.

Despite the extensive travelings by young Elisha and Amy, they were blessed with ten children. The first is an unknown son, then followed Josiah, Rosannah, Anna, Abner, Manoa, Caleb, Elizabeth, Blueford Elisha and John Dyer. The 1980 version of the family history indicated this list of children was made from many sources and is presumed to be correct. Most of the children followed their parents to Kentucky and established their homes there.

Young Caleb was an exception and returned to Wilkes County, North Carolina, where he eventually married Rebecca Howard. Their nine children were: Benjamin b. 1798, Elisha b. 1800, followed by Betsey, George Sater, Joel, Caleb, Nancy Emily, Mary Louana and Rebecca Mira. Benjamin (22 years old) and Elisha (20 years old) were living near their parents when their father, Caleb, died 8 August 1820.

In his will, Caleb gave and bequeathed "all my lands and tenements, good and chattels, stock of every kind, farming utensils, household furniture, etc." to his wife, Rebecca. He also added that excepting one "rifle gun", his wife was to "hold, possess and enjoy the foregoing property, as also my negro woman, together with her increase". In the event Rebecca married again, all the estate should be divided equally between his wife and children. His oldest son, Benjamin, was to receive the rifle gun.

Shortly after his father's death, Benjamin and his wife, Martha Pogue moved to Eastern Tennessee. it was there that their children Mira, Caroline, Nancy and Benjamin Jr. were born. In 1832 the family came to Crawford County, Arkansas. Young Benjammin was not yet a year old when they arrived. The children were to know their father Benjamin for only two more years. Although a very successful farmer, blacksmith and fruit distiller, we assume

he fell ill and died in 1834 at the age of 36.

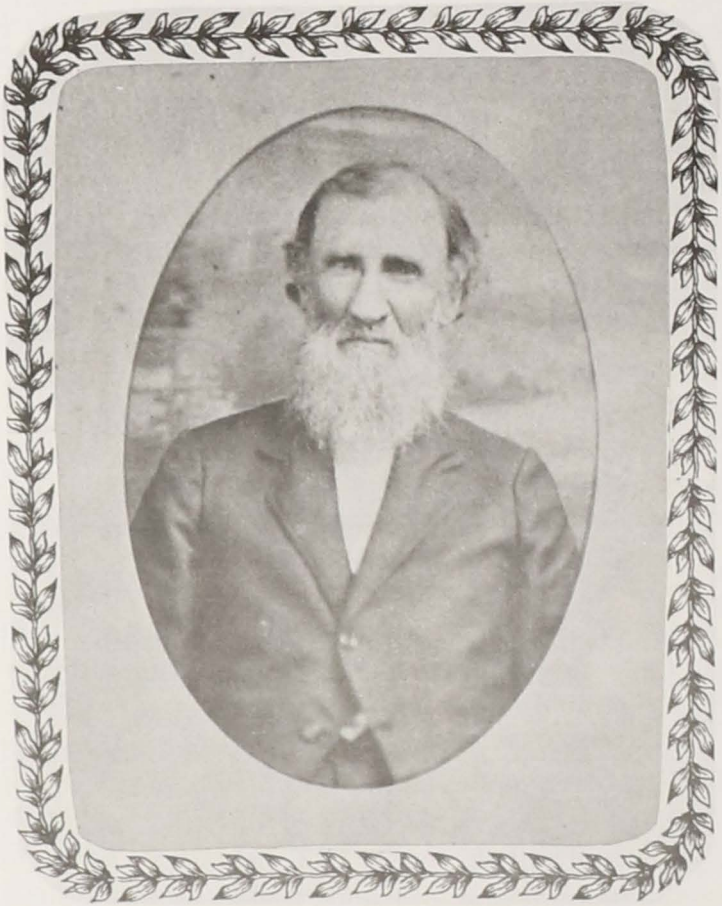
Rebecca made every attempt to maintain her large family in Wilkes County, N. C. She had been well-provided for by her husband Caleb. It seem logical that Benjamin, his wife Martha and Elisha who had married Polly Townsley in Blount County, Tenn. in 1824, helped Rebecca to move her large family and possessions to Monroe County, Tenn. probably in 1824. Benjamin, Elisha and Rebecca were listed in the 1830 Tenn. census, each as head of a household. Elisha's first two children, Joel Sater and Nancy Emily were born in Tenn.

However, the lure of adventure in a new land undoubtedly described by their brother Benjamin, who had gone to Northwest Arkansas, proved too much for the family. They decided to dispose of much of their holdings and prepare for the western journey. Rebecca, in preparation for the arduous trip, divided the large family into two groups. One group traveled by flatboat up the Arkansas River to Van Buren, while the other group came across the plains, herding their livestock. It is believed that they arrived in 1831 or 1832.

From Van Buren, they made their way to Mountainburg, Crawford County, to try to establish their new home. Whether it was the hardships endured during the journey to the new land or the change to a new environment, the family suffered, through illness or accident, the loss of mother Rebecca, young unmarried Caleb, age 25, Betsey Dyer Mooney, age 30, and Benjamin, all before the year 1835. Betsey left her husband, William Mooney, and two young daughters, Mary and Rebecca. It is believed that William and the children remained in Crawford County.

George Sater Dyer, son of Caleb, with the death of his mother and his brother Benjamin, assumed the responsibility for the widow Martha Pogue Dyer and her children. George had married Catherine Bean after the

journey to Arkansas. Their children were: Mary C., Elizabeth R., Martha E., Susan F., Margaret M., George N. and Robert Sater Dyer. Their father, George Sater, died in 1851 at the age of 46. Most of this family remained in Crawford County. Robert Sater served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.



Joel Sater Dyer, b. 1826, d. 1913.
Grandson of Rebecca Dyer, son of Elisha Dyer

Joel Dyer was about 23 when he came to Arkansas with his mother, brothers and sisters. He went to Washington County and purchased or homesteaded land in Mountain

Township. He was on the tax list for 1837 and was counted in the 1840 census with a wife and one child. He had married Sarah A. Tarkington and their daughter Clementine was born in 1838. By 1850, this young family, now with six children, returned to Crawford County, settling one mile north of the present town of Dyer. There he built a log cabin in which he and his wife ran a relay station for a stagecoach. It was located on Old Wire Road parallel to Hwys. 64 and 140. It was originally known as Dyer Station-later changed to Dyer in honor of the pioneer clan who had settled in the area. Of their 13 children, five of the boys stayed with the parents and helped establish the village which was to become an important shipping center on the Little Rock and Ft. Smith Railroad. Several generations of Dyers remained there and served in many capacities as coroner, postmaster, builder and grocer.

Few facts are known about the early life of the two youngest Dyers. Mary Louana and Rebecca Mira were teenagers when they came to Arkansas with their mother Rebecca. Various records indicate they were the same age, either twins or only one year apart. They left Crawford County and came to Mountain Township, so undoubtedly they came with their older brothers Elisha and Joel. Mary Louana was born February, 1813, in Wilkes Co., N. C. We believe it was October, 1841, when she married James Alexander Lindsey McColloch. Their children were: Clem- who prepared the genealogy booklet *SATER, DYER, MCCOLLOCH* in 1905- Martha, Jerusha and Mary McColloch. In the 1860 census the McCollochs were enumerated next to Tandy Kidd and his son-in-law, Thomas Reynolds, in Cane Hill, raising a question- were they actually living on the Kidd farm? Tandy's second wife, Nancy Emily Dyer, was Mrs. McColloch's niece. Elisha Dyer, Nancy Emily's father, lived on a farm nearby.

Rebecca Mira was the last child born to Caleb and

Rebecca Dyer. She married Green Harrison in 1834 and they too lived in Mountain Township. Their children were: Sarah, James M., Richard P. and Mary E. Harrison. Both of their sons fought in the Civil War where James Marshall was fatally wounded. Rebeccca Mira survived all of her brothers and sisters, living until 1894.

Elisha b. 1800, second oldest son of Rebecca and Caleb, became head of the Dyer family when his brother Benjamin died in 1835. He and his wife, Polly Townsley, son Joel Slater b. 1826, and Nancy Emily b. 1829 had made the trip westward from Monroe County, Tenn. in 1831-32. Records indicate they moved northward from the Mountainburg area of Crawford County into Washington County, Mountain Township. This area seemed to be a favorite of the Southerners who left their homes in search of adventure and a better place to raise their families.

Trying to determine the location of Mountain Township has been troublesome. It appears in the U. S. Census from 1830 to 1880. In August, 1836, three judges, John Ferguson, Samuel Stevenson and William Stirman were appointed to be in charge of the township. However, in 1836, it was divided, the eastern half became West Fork Township. It was divided again in 1842, the southern part between the Illinois River, Cove Creek and Lee's Creek became Cove Creek Township. According to the 1840 Census, Mountain Township had 93 heads of household listed and Cane hill Township had 114. One description suggested the area was about 4 miles east of Boonesboro (Cane Hill) which now would be T14N R31W.

Elisha began acquiring land in Mountain Township soon after he arrived. His first acquisition was 75 + acres on 30 November, 1835. Its description was W1/2 SW1/4 sec. 7, T14N R31W. From this modest beginning he gradually added to his property until the last purchase Feb. 1860 brought his holdings to approximately 600 acres. Sulphur Creek ran the length of his home farm and was

probably the main reason he chose this site. In 1838-39 he had purchased 120 additional acres, its description E1/2 SW1/4 and NW1/4 SE1/4 sec. 20, T15N R31W. His brother Joel purchased the 40 acres remaining in Elisha's quarter section. This was about one and a half miles southeast of Prairie Grove.

Reference had been made in the literature that Elisha lived near Boonesboro, so we assume he built his home on the land he originally purchased. The village of Hubbard was surrounded on three sides by Elisha's property. Francis Marion Dyer, Elisha's son served as Hubbard's postmaster in the 1880's. At one time, a school was located on one of the 40-acre parcels.

The image of Elisha (my great, great grandfather) can only be drawn from existing records and logical cause and effect. I have not found any descendant who has even one personal story to relate. He was a farmer. When his mother Rebecca decided to make the move to Arkansas, the holdings in North Carolina and Tennessee had to be liquidated. His father's will stipulated that all the estate would go to Rebecca. We have no record of how she distributed the assets.

June 15, 1836 was of great significance. for Arkansas was admitted to the Union as a slave state. In the same year, Elisha received his first tax bill for his land and his younger sister, Nancy Emily, married his neighbor, Obadiah Seay. Polly, Elisha's wife, had given birth to Francis Marion in 1835 and in 1842 William Perry was born. Their last child had the unusual name of Trephonia Adeline, arriving in 1844. Sometime during the next six years, it is assumed Polly died and Elisha married a forty-nine year old woman named Mary. She was from Tennessee. By the Fall of 1848, he saw his daughter, Nancy Emily, marry his good friend and neighbor, widower Tandy K. Kidd. Later, Joel Sater married Laura Townsley, Francis Marion m. Polen B. then Ann Hannah, William

Perry m. Rebecca Baggett and Trephonia A. m. John O. Parks then Dr. W. W. Mahan.

Undoubtedly, farming was Elisha's chief occupation; but for 10 years he devoted much of his time to the administration of the estate of his deceased friend and brother-in-law Obadiah Seay. All of his reports, which were numerous, were readily accepted by the probate court. I have not been able to locate him or his family in the 1860 census. The pressures and fears of the coming Civil War were apparent and like many of the citizens of the area, they were not available to the census takers. However, Elisha was listed in the 1860 slave schedule, owning negroes, ages 24, 23, l2, 5, and 7 1/2.

After the long war years, Elisha was back on his farm, again a widower. Tragedy had struck his daughter, Nancy Kidd. She had lost her husband, Tandy Kidd, and stepson, Lucius P., and through necessity, had come back to her father in his home. Her children, Cornelius H., Laura Adeline and Martha Clintonia were with her. Francis Marion Dyer, Elisha's son, was living on the farm and was helping his seventy year old father. Elisha's personal property tax bills for 1869-72 indicated he had horses, cattle and sheep valued at $300. His 1870 tax bill indicated 200 acres had been transferred to Francis Marion and William Perry. By 1881-88, he claimed only one horse.

During the next decade Francis Marion assumed the duties of the farm, caring for his father and raising his own family of 6 children. William Perry also owned a general store in Prairie Grove. He had no children. Elisha was able to attend the Old Settlers Picnic 5 July 1883. He died in 1887- no burial site has been located.

The Dyer, Kidd, Seay, Leach and Parks families had become involved through marriages, so the task of tracing their family connections became difficult. An interesting example occurred when Trephonia A. Dyer, daughter of

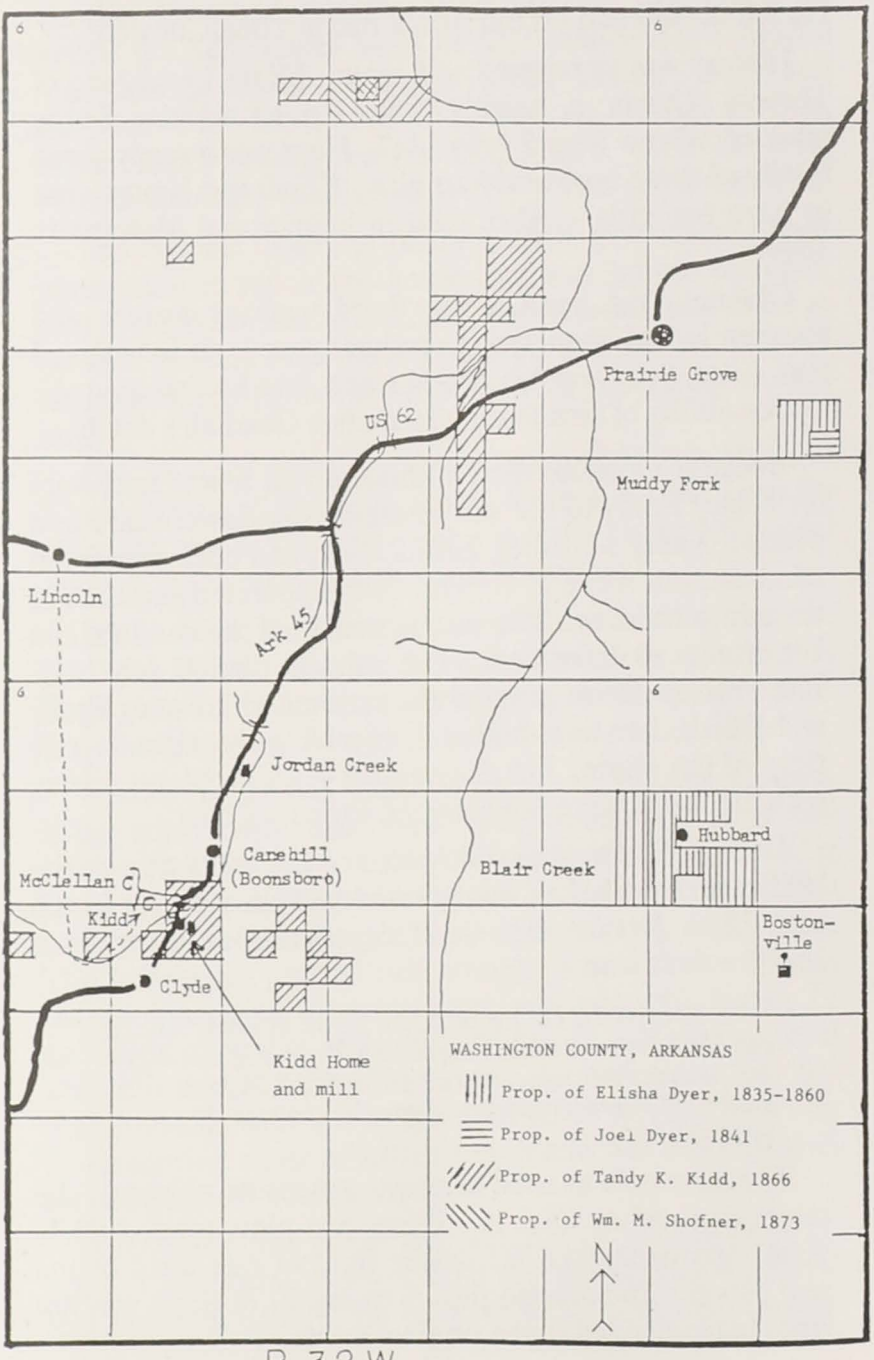
Elisha, married John O. Parks. Laura A. Kidd, daughter of Tandy K. Kidd, married John's brother, Houston M. Parks. Trephonia then became Laura's aunt and sister-in-law.

Nancy Emily Dyer Seay Leach b. 1811 had perhaps the most tumultuous life of all her brothers and sisters. Even more remarkable, her niece and namesake, Nancy Emily Dyer Kidd b. 1829, was to have an almost parallel life of heartbreak as the wife of Tandy Kidd (Flashback, November, 1989).

After losing their mother, Nancy and her two younger sisters came to Washington County with their brothers. Little did they know as they settled on land in Washington County that their lives would become very involved with their neighbors- Obadiah Seay, Thomas and Elijah Leach and later, Tandy Kidd.

Obadiah and his young wife, Sallie Rice, had arrived in Van Buren in 1829. Obadiah left his wife in temporary quarters and walked to Mountain Township, Washington County. On his chosen land, he alone cut and hauled on his back the logs for the 16 x 16 foot cabin he was building for his family. He brought Sallie to her new home in an oxcart. Their son Rufus was born 12 October 1830. Columbus was born in 1833 and Sarah Ann c 1836. Sallie died soon after the birth of the last child. Then followed a pattern that was repeated so often on the frontier of America. Obadiah, with three small motherless children, turned to his friend and neighbor, Elisha Dyer, and his unmarried sister, Nancy Emily. Obadiah and Nancy E. were married in May 1836.

It is assumed that the 16 x 16 cabin was enlarged, for the Seay's family grew from three children to seven with Joseph c 1838, Mary Ellen, Nancy F. and Rebecca Martha c 1845. It seems that this Seay family was a comfortable blend, for various records indicate that as adults they had good relations, caring for each other. There is no explanation about the sudden death of Obadiah in 1847.


T 5 N
T 4 N
R 32 W
Prairie Grove
US 62
Muddy Fork
Lincoln
Ark 45
Jordan Creek
Carehill (Boonsboro)
McClellan
Kidd
Clyde
Kidd Home and mill
Blair Creek
Hubbard
Boston-ville
WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS
Prop. of Elisha Dyer, 1835-1860
Prop. of Joel Dyer, 1841
Prop. of Tandy K. Kidd, 1866
Prop. of Wm. M. Shofner, 1873
N

He left no will and his burial site had not been located.

History was to repeat itself again. Elijah Leach, son of Thomas Leach, a neighbor and friend of the Seays, married Widow Seay 2 May 1847. Here was a ready made family of three boys and four girls. Elijah and Nancy were to have two girls – Alice died in infancy and Malvana b. 1849.

Obadiah had been a very hard working farmer and apparently had his acreage producing well. It is believed that Allen Seay was his brother and that he assumed the responsibility of farming the land after Obadiah's death.

Because Obadiah died without a will it was necessary for Nancy Emily to file suit to secure her dower share as a widow. Nancy's brother, Elisha Dyer, had been appointed administrator while P. R. Smith was appointed guardian of the minor children. The suit named all of the children and her brother as defendants. This suit was filed 21 July 1847. The Probate Court granted the request with Nancy Emily and Elijah, her new husband, receiving the right to one third of the estate. For the next 10 years problems arising with the estate were heard by the Probate Court.

During the October 1847 term of the court title to the land described below was granted to Nancy Emily Leach and Elijah Leach. The land description as taken from court records was:

> *E1/2 of NE1/4 OF sec 24, T14N, R33W, 80 acres. Also, E end NW1/4 of sec 24 beginning at the SW corner of that entry and running N 80 poles to the corner, thence E 38 poles, thence SW 85 poles to the line, thence W 5 poles to the beginning corner.*

The term pole as used here was a measure of length, the same as a rod or 16.5 ft. These two plots totaled 90.76 acres, approximately her dower right of one third of the real estate. The second plot, totaling 10.76 acres was not from land included in the original estate.

It is hard for us today to even contemplate putting a

price on another human being; but these people lived in another time and customs were different. In this court action the Seay slaves were listed: Media- $350, Martin Van Buren- $275, Lafayette $225, Cullen- $175 and Caroline- $125 for a total of $1150. As her dower right, Nancy Emily would receive $383.33-1/3. She chose to receive the negro Media and $33.33-1/3 for the difference.

The Probate Court, in January, 1848, gave Elijah Leach permission to repair the house that was "so out of repair that it could not be rented". He was to repair the house as he saw fit. He also agreed to feed and clothe 5 minor negro children of the estate who were too young to hire out.

On 20 April 1850, the court ordered Elisha Dyer, as administrator of the Seay estate, to rent out the farm for repairing the fences and to hire out the slaves still under his care at the residence of the deceased.

Elisha Dyer, for the ten years he was administrator of the Seay estate, reported at each term of the court fairly large sums of money representing the slaves in his charge. His accounts were always notes, accepted and recorded.

According to the 1850 Washington County Census, living adjustments had been made among the Seays and Leachs. Allen Seay, a 60-year old bachelor, was living close to or on the land now owned by Nancy E. and Elijah Leach. All of the Seay children were living with Allen. The interesting part of this arrangement was that Elijah, the comparatively new husband, was not with Nancy E. and their daughter Malvana. Nancy E. was enumerated with Elizabeth Leach. One can only conjecture that the two husbands were off to the gold fields or Elizabeth was an unmarried sister of Elijah Leach and was a companion for her sister-in-law, Nancy E.

Allen Seay died in the late summer of 1852, leaving no will. A memorial will was filed requesting disposition of real estate to benefit the children of Obadiah and Nancy

Emily- Mary, Nancy Emily and Martha Rebecca Seay.

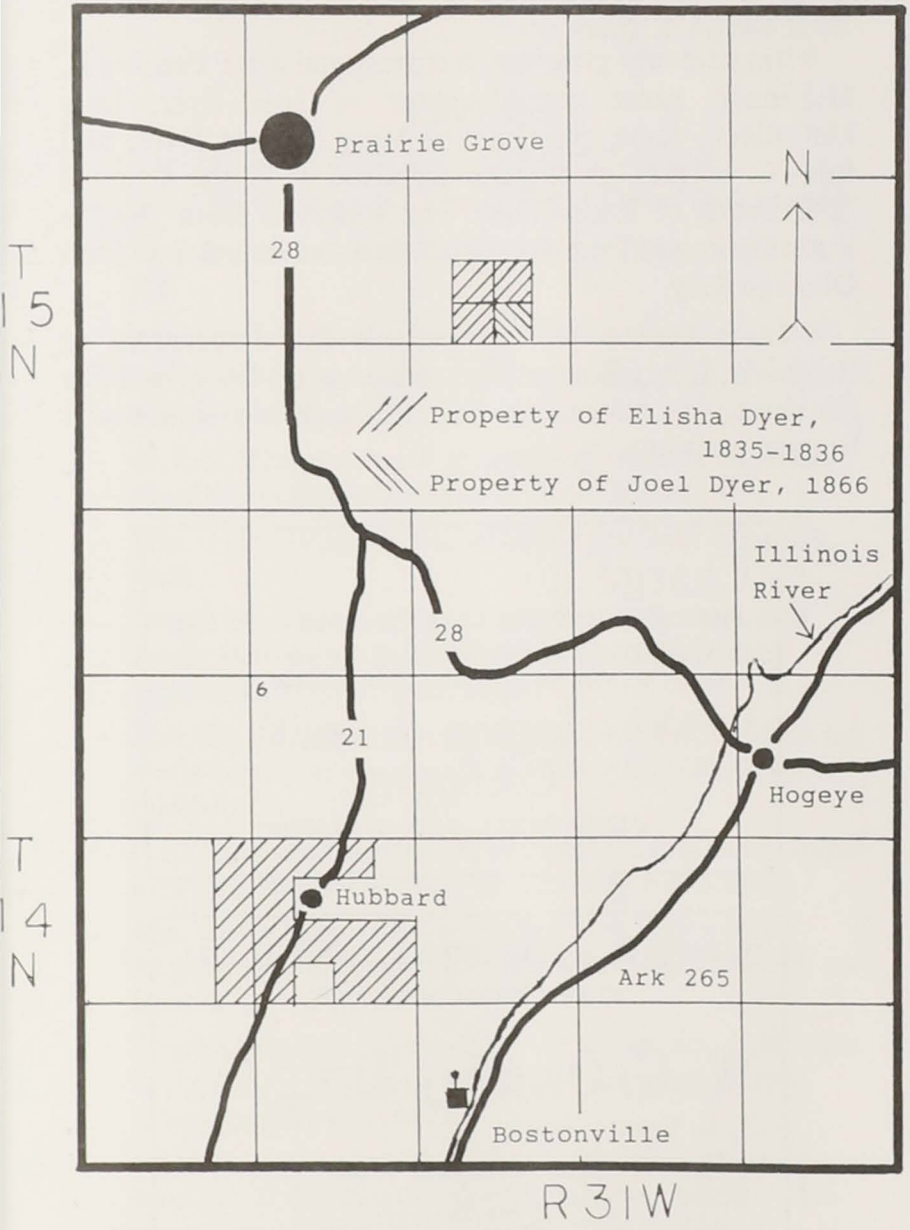
By 1860, Nancy Emily and her husband had all of the Seay children and their daughter Malvana living with them. It is assumed that her son, Joseph Seay, was killed during the Civil War. Her stepsons, Rufus and Columbus Seay joined the Confederate Army. At one time Rufus was a blacksmith for Stand Watie, the Cherokee Indian who became a General in the Confederate Army and fought in the Battle of Pea Ridge. Columbus also contributed his skills as a blacksmith to the Army.

Since 1847, Nancy Emily had lost her first husband, her first born son and an infant daughter. The final blow was to come in the waning years of the Civil War. One version of her tragedy was that her husband had been given a sum of money from his niece/ward for safekeeping. It is said that he had buried the money somewhere on his farm. Horsemen came to his home and demanded the money. His refusal angered the group so they hanged him. Nancy Emily's step-daughter, Sara Ann Whinnery was to lose her husband by hanging at the same time.

It is not clear if he was involved in the same incident. Jines, Seay and Seay recount another version involving Elijah's attempt to collect for forage taken by the U. S. troops. He was killed by Col. Jimenson's command in the Fall of 1864. Nancy Emily's daughter, Mary Ellen Edmiston, also lost her husband to wounds he suffered in the Civil War. Nancy Emily Dyer Seay Leach died in 1867.

Of the nine young adventurous Dyers who came to Northwest Arkansas in the early 1830's, eight of them gave forty six children to the rapidly growing State of Arkansas. Their contributions were significant in the fields of education, religion, agriculture and community life. They sent ten of their finest young men to the Confederate Army for what they thought was a just cause. Six lost their lives as a result of that brutal war.

PART OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, 1835-1860



The sixty-seven Dyers of the next generation were well-prepared and willing to join in the task of reconstruction and expansion of the Western Frontier of the United States.

It has been my pleasure to correspond with: Frances E. McKinney, great granddaughter of Joel Dyer; Lacy McColloch, great grandson of Mary Louana Dyer; and John C. Rogers, great-great-grandson of Elisha Dyer. I have heard of Frank Dyer who descends from George Sater Dyer, and from Russell J. Seay, who descends from Obadiah Seay.

I am not aware of any present day descendants of Benjamin Dyer, Betsey Dyer Mooney or Rebecca Mira Harrison. Any information concerning these people would be most welcome.

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From the Washington County Review Vol. Ix, No. 39
Fayetteville, Washington Co. AR,
Thursday 30 March 1899

Local News

- Uncle Nathan Combs is seriously ill with dropsy.
- D. M. Harbison made a business trip to West Fork Monday.
- W. S. Pollard left Saturday on a business trip to Paducah, KY.
- Mrs. Frank Hill is in Little Rock visiting with her husband.
- Mr. W. P. Nelson, of Helena, is in the city, guest of his sister, Mrs. Ino P. Wood.
- W. L. Call has purchased the dwelling property on South Block Street formerly owned by Benj. Griffey.
- Wm. Coil of Winslow, was in the city yesterday to pay his taxes.
- Joseph Whitehead will leave Saturday for Leavenworth, Kansas, to undergo military examination for a second Lieutenance in the regular Army.
- Miss Ella Simmons has returned from her visit to Tennessee and is now in the employ of the McIlroy Dry Goods Co. as saleslady.
- C.E. Trott, Cashier of the Washington County Bank, visited with his family at Carthage, MO. Sunday and Monday.
- Mrs. Henry Hurst and baby arrived from Bentonville Monday and will spend a few days here visiting relatives and friends.
- Charles Crawford, who suffered the amputation of his right leg last week, is reported very feeble and much doubt is entertained for his recovery.
- Frank Barnett and family will leave for California next Monday. If they like the country and send back favorable reports we understand that several other families of the city will soon follow.

All Ex Union Soldiers

who made a homestead entry before June 22, 1874, of less than 160 acres are entitled to additional land, and can assign the right. We will pay you the highest price for these rights. Write us and we will give full information concerning same.

BROOKS AND HOOD REAL ESTATE AGENTS
FAYETTEVILLE, AR

To preserve news clippings:

Dissolve a milk of magnesia tablet in a quart of club soda overnight. Pour into a pan large enough to accommodate the flattened newspaper. Soak clipping for one hour, remove and pat completely dry. Do not move until completely dry. Estimated life: 200 years.

Researched by Barbara Hale

Roy W. Wood '13

Hugh Lawson '17

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WANTED:

Photographs of Early Canning Factories in Washington County.

Your Editorial Committee is sponsoring a report on old canning facilities which is being written by Phillip Steele of Springdale. The Committee is asking for your help and cooperation to gather as many photographs of this unique bit of Washington County's history as possible.

All photos will be returned to senders if requested. Please have your material well identified as to time, place, and people involved.

Thanks for your help!

Lloyd O. Warren, Chairman

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